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Book Review of Annuals and Surveys Appearing in Legal Periodicals: An Annotated Listing

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Periodicals and Serials


This work is designed to help law librarians locate regularly published law journal articles that survey particular developments in the law. The author has divided her work, which is published in looseleaf format for annual updating, into three sections: “State,” “Federal Courts,”
and “Subject.” The “State” section, which is arranged by state name, identifies articles providing an overview of legislative, judicial, or administrative developments in the laws of particular states. The researcher can use the “Federal” section to locate articles surveying judicial decisions rendered by the United States Supreme Court and the federal circuit courts of appeals. The “Subject” section can be used to locate survey articles on a wide range of procedural and substantive law topics.

Each listing contains the title of the survey article, the name of the publication in which the article appears, the author, descriptive notes, and citations to where each article is published. As the author states, “[t]he notes are of particular importance because they indicate the scope of coverage, the strengths and weaknesses of the survey and the frequency of publication” (introduction). DeLashmitt is correct in stating that researchers “often overlook or are unaware of the valuable articles found in the surveys that appear in law reviews, bar journals and annuals” (introduction). Her work certainly makes locating such articles easier and should substantially benefit legal researchers. Recommended for most law libraries.  

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